



Testimony of Carol Scully
Director of Advocacy, The Arc of Connecticut, Inc.
LCO No. 3617 H.B. 6593 An Act Concerning Housing Authority Jurisdiction
February 6, 2023

Members of the Housing Committee: Co-Chair Representative Luxenberg, Co-Chair Senator Moore, Vice Chair Representative Khan, Vice Chair Senator Lesser, Ranking Member Senator Sampson, Ranking Member Representative Scott, Senator Fonfara, Senator Hochadel, Representative Brown, Representative Butler, Representative Gonzalez, Representative Roberts, Representative Polleta, Representative Weir, Representative Zullo

The Arc Connecticut is the oldest and the largest community-based organization advocating for and with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families. We work tirelessly to uphold our vision that every individual and family living with I/DD has access to the information, advocacy, and skills they need to support their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.

We are a chapter of The Arc of The United States, which has 675 chapters in 49 states and over 5,000 service locations. Nationwide, we have approximately 7,000 board members, 124,000 staff, 46,000 volunteers and collectively we serve more than 1 million people with I/DD and their family members.

In Connecticut, our 14 Arc local chapters deliver over \$100 million in jobs, supports and services to thousands of people in 162 communities. Together Arcs are the largest provider of supports and services for people with I/DD and their families in the state, providing about 96% of the services.

The Arc of Connecticut urges the Housing Committee to include language in lines 43 through 52, that specifically includes persons with disabilities including persons with Autism, Intellectual Developmental Disabilities, Development Disabilities and additionally, Elderly persons. The language as written is not inclusive creating an equity issue for these persons and is not in alignment with the state's affordable housing initiatives which does include this class of people.

The Arc of Connecticut is placing this request on record as it pertains to H.B. 6593.

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